Reemployment of Retired Government Personnel for SIDA-WHO Programme

3058. SHRI SAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of retired Government personnel have been employed for the SIDA-WHO supported Plasmodium Falciparum Containment Programme, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that the remuneration and other perks for the above retired officials are higher than those given to regular equivalent officials and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government are aware that such analmolous situation is causing legitimate dissatisfaction amongst Government's regular staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Out of the total staff strength of 482 for SIDA-WHO supported Plasmodium falciparum containment programme, only 38 persons who are experienced in Malaria activities, are retired personnel.

(b) All the Plasmodium falciparum containment programme employees are on per diem basis, except three experts who are on contractual service Agreement with the World Health Organisation and being paid consolidated emoluments monthly.

(c) No report of dissatisfaction amongst regular Government staff has been received.

Conference on Food Adulteration

3059. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that consensus amongst Government participants from States as well as consumer bodies at the recent Conference on Food Adulteration in Delhi organised by DG-HS was in favour of the revamping of the present PFA infrastructure;

(b) whether Government are aware that despite this a committee of the Central Government senior staff has been formed to 'vet' and finalise the recommendations without any time limit; and

(c) whether Government would revitalise the present PFA set up at the Centre and in States to make it more effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) The National Conference on Food Quality Assurance and Consumer participation held on 27th-28th October, 1988 at the National Institute of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi, recommended strengthening of the administration of Food Laws.

(b) The group entrusted with the job of finalisation of the recommendations also includes two non-official members, one of whom belongs to a Consumer Organisation.

(c) The Government is already seized of the need for strengthening the Prevention of Food Adulteration set up at the Centre and in the States.